

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, BGEN, GR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF RHODE ISLAND STATE REP GEORGE T. PANICHAS

1. RI STATE REP PANICHAS, WHO ACCOMPANIED CODEL PELL DURING AUGUST 7-21 VISIT TO GREECE AND CYPRUS, REMAINED IN ATHENS UNTIL AUGUST 27 TO INVESTIGATE SERIES OF INVESTMENT PROJECTS. PANICHAS OFFERED FOLLOWING DETAILS DURING CALL AT EMBASSY AUGUST 26.

2. PANICHAS HELD MEETING WITH ALTERNATE COORDINATION MINISTER COUTOS RE POSSIBLE INVESTMENT BY SEAGRAVE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK IN MAJOR LEATHER PROCESSING PLANT HERE. BOUTOS REPORTEDLY FAVORED PROPOSAL AND PROMISED TO CONTACT SEAGRAVE CHAIRMAN SALTZMAN DIRECTLY.

3. PANICHAS ALSO INVESTIGATED PROSPECT FOR INVESTMENT IN LOCAL SUPERMARKET CHAIN BY STAR MARKET DIVISION OF JEWEL TEA CO. AND IS IN CONTACT WITH LARGEST TWO LOCAL FIRMS, MARINOPOULOS AND VASSILOPOULOS.

4. WHILE HERE, PANICHAS ALSO PURSUED EARLIER CONTACTS WITH COSTAS GRATSOS, AND NICOLAOS PAPANICOLAOU OF ONASSIS ORGANIZATION RE PROPOSAL FOR LOCATION OF ONASSIS REFINERY AND PETROLEUM COMPLEX IN RHODE ISLAND. ONASSIS OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY STATED THAT GROUP EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN RI SITE PENDING CLARIFICATION OF US ENERGY POLICIES.

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5. EMBASSY BRIEFED PANICHAS ON SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH

USDOC AND COMMERCIAL SECTION AND OFFERED APPROPRIATE
ASSISTANCE DURING FORTHCOMING VISITS BY STAR MARKET AND
SEAGRAVE OFFICIALS.
KUBISCH

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